

GJ

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Miguel ESTEVEZ et al.

Filed: Filed Concurrently Herewith

Title of Invention: METHOD OF CODING ARTEFACTS REDUCTION

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151**EXPRESS MAIL**

Mailing Label Number: EV001579586US

Date of Deposit: November 26, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202

Charles Jackson
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)Charles Jackson
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application (35 U.S.C. 111)
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 13-16 by rewriting the same as follows:

5. (Amended) Method according to claim 2, characterized in that said deblocking filtering is performed separately for horizontal and vertical borders of neighbouring blocks.